

# THE FARMER'S TALK TO FARMERS

## AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND FARMING AS A BUSINESS

Written Specially for The Bulletin.

While the dictionary definitions of "agriculture" and "farming" are very much alike, there is a shade of difference, and that shade is highly significant. Webster defines "agriculture" as "the art or science of cultivating the ground." He defines "farming" as "the business of cultivating land."

Observe? One is an "art or science," the other is a "business."

That's just about what we common farmers have always suspected when we have heard the Majorbunks talking about their agriculture and the Bill Snooks talking about their farming.

Most of us are in the Bill Snooks class. We are cultivating our land as a business, hardly as an art or science.

As a rule, we are not very intimate with either art or science, nor at all handy in using their lingo. We are after potatoes or corn or hay or oats or cabbages or calves or most anything that we can sell for a dollar more than it costs us. We want that dollar.

Most of us would be exceedingly glad if we could make it Two Dollars instead of just One. Or even Three.

And right there comes in a question: Dye's spouse we could, perhaps, make it Two or even Three if we were a little bit more "agriculturalists" and no less "farmers?"

Heaven forbid that I should only and "right up in meetin'" say one word against the paramount pre-eminence of business! To do so would be perilously close to irreverence towards our national shibboleth.

But, treading softly and speaking low in the presence of the supreme fetish, may it not be hinted, nevertheless, that perhaps a little wider and longer outlook than just for the single dollar which we are in our dirt might, now and then, reveal the lurking places of other dollars?

Small things, near by, sometimes serve to hide bigger things a little farther away. An old-fashioned penny which is less than an inch across, if held close before the eye, will hide the sun which is over 80,000 miles in diameter. A muddled roadway run in which one's carriage wheel bounces seems bigger, at the moment, than the faint seam along the distant mountain-side, which may be, nevertheless, a deep-cut gorge with veins of outcropping ore.

Sometimes it naves a farmer better to sit on the fence and whittle than to do anything else, runs an old saying in my part of the country. In other words, it's better to do nothing than to do the wrong thing at the wrong time.

But it's only by taking long looks

ahead and behind and above and below and all around, that we stand any chance of avoiding those wrong times and wrong times. Short-sighted attention to only one nearby interest, to the ignoring of larger interests that happen to be farther away, is—well, it is short-sightedness, to say nothing harsher. What's the use, as we grow older, of buying spectacles to aid our physical eye-weakness if we spend all our lives actually encouraging and fostering business short-sightedness?

Majorbunks are "engaged in agricultural pursuits." That is, he has a fine barn and a selected herd of pedigree cows and concrete stables and improved stanchions and manure-pits and manure spreaders, etc.

And then he hires somebody else to fill the barns and feed the cows and clean the stables and draw out the manure.

Wherefore, he buys grain to feed them and butter to feed himself.

Bill Snooks' barn has a tight roof—and that's the only complimentary thing that can be said about it. It is old and it is battered and the cow-stalls are made of old slabs and the manure is thrown out into a heap and put on the fields in the spring when it thaws out enough to be handled.

But Bill feeds and milks his cows himself and cleans their stables and spreads his own fields with the manure from his own wagon and with his own fork in his own hands.

Wherefore, he sells corn and butter to the Majorbunks and other neighboring "agriculturalists."

But—suppose Bill Snooks had as good a barn and as high bred cows and as good a manure pit and as good a spreader (I don't say "as expensive" but "as good") and as good other facilities as Majorbunks and then, with these advantages, added to them his own personal labor and technical skill and lifelong experience—then, it possible, isn't it probable that he would be able to produce even more corn and more as well as better butter?

Wouldn't he be an even better "farmer" if he could take a leaf or two from the books of the mere "agriculturalist?"

Bill Snooks will say that he can't afford all that fancy fluff. That's another question. Perhaps he can't, and perhaps he only thinks he can't. He doesn't want or need the "fancy fluff," anyway. But that's no reason why he should sneer at real conveniences and improvements. That's the way a one-legged man gives me no cause for sneering at men with two legs. Rather, such a condition should lead to envy of my two-pronged neighbor.

born and to an attempt at least to approximate their more effective locomotion.

All I want is to get Bill Snooks to admit that he'd be glad to adopt some of the Majorbunks' betterments, if he could afford them.

If he had them, he'd make a vastly more effective and successful business use of them, I'll be bound.

In a recent editorial on the business of farming The Wisconsin Agriculturalist, after saying that the success of any farm home is based on the success of the farm business, adds these golden words:

"What farmers need most to know is how to make the science of agriculture boost the business of farming."

That's neatly and effectively put. When the farmers of America wed all that scientific agriculture can teach them to their own mastery of the practical business of farming, they'll be more successful than they are.

When they hitch science and practice together they'll have something a good deal better than any one-horse team.

One long step will be taken in that direction when both sides stop sneering at each other and begin to appreciate the primary fact that each could learn some mighty useful things of the other, if he were a little more humble and less opinionated.

"Truth is invariable," said the wise Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, "but the Brown-ats of truth always differs somewhat from the Smiths' tale of truth." It's only by melting the two "ates" together that you get the real thing.

Why is it that Germany, hemmed in by more numerous armies and deprived of almost all help from the outside world, is yet able to put up such a fight? Simply and solely because she has been for forty years and is now applying all that science can teach to the horribly practical business of war. Does she want nitrogen for her bombs and mines and torpedoes, nitrogen which she is forbidden to obtain from the Chilian nitre beds? Then she gets her scientists to the task of extracting it from the air, which no blockade or embargo can deprive her of. Does she want alcohol in manufacturing while short of grain to make it from? She gets

her scientists to engineering it out of potato-parings and kitchen-slops.

We self-admiring Yanks who want the world to wonder at our practical efficiency, can't even manage two-percent potato in our fertilizers nor eyes to color our women's gowns, though the raw materials for both are more plentiful to our hands than in Germany, just because the German supply is cut off and, and we're to darn "practical" to waste money on the scientists who could find us adequate substitutes!

It's too late along in the world's life for any of us to cast scorn on science or to refuse to hitch science and practice together, whether in the making of picric acid or the growing of profitable crops.

Successful farming will never be done by men in kid gloves and patent-leather shoes following rules in books or blindly imitating experiments in laboratories.

Nor, on the other hand, will it often be done by men who, however industrious and faithful, scorn to learn everything they possibly can about their business, no matter whether their teacher is a hop-toad, warning them of a change in the weather, or a test-tube, showing the exact capacities and probable needs of their soil.

Why refuse help in a time of need, because we may not wholly approve the barbering of the helper's hair? What odds to us the source if the assistance be real and efficient?

Even the "curses" courses fought against Sissera. I don't profess to know how much they may have had to do with the result, but Sissera got licked and had a tent-pole driven through his head. If I'd been Barak, I might not have thought of asking the man to take any hand in the emergency, but I certainly shouldn't have refused to let him fight with me in their courses against an enemy with either 800 chariots of iron or 9,000,000 potato-bugs!

The aim of the business farmer in success at his business of farming. He certainly can get some help towards that result from the best things offered by science. Why, in the name of common sense, should he sneer at a would-be friend, or refuse the assistance of a would-be helper?

THE FARMER.

### LETTERS FROM TWO STATES

#### Tolland County

##### MERROW

Armstrong Farm Sold—Passing of the Virginia Reel Fence—Farmers Organize to Protect Game and Fish.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moriarty and daughter have returned from a lengthy visit in Hartford.

Mrs. Bert C. Hallock and children have returned from visiting in Hartford.

Miss Rose Latham spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Latham.

Miss Marie Kilmer spent a day in Willimantic this week.

Mrs. Henry M. Whiting and son have returned from a week's visit with the former's sister, Mrs. L. P. Church, in Norwich.

A big motor truck got stuck in the mud several times between Mansfield Depot and Merrow last Friday. They called on George Merrow's foreman to help them out with horses. It was several hours before they got the heavy truck back on good road.

The state road between South Willington and Merrow has been patched up with gravel in several places. The patched road is in need of a heavy layer of trap rock.

**Buy Another Farm.**

George Merrow of Hartford recently purchased the Armstrong farm adjoining his large fruit farm. Mr. Merrow has had his men fencing the newly acquired property the past week.

Herbert Allen has returned to the Merrow farm for the summer.

**Virginia Reel Fence.**

The old style Virginia reel fence which has stood the test for many years are being cut into staves wood and fencing replaced by wire.

Wenzel Augustus recently purchased a automobile for mountain climbing.

**Farmers Organize.**

A number of the farmers this last fall met at the home of E. H. Haskell and decided to form an organization of farmers, to protect the game and fish in this vicinity.

The Barrington brick works recently burned, are expected to come to work for the Ashaway Clay company.

Charles P. Eccleston has returned home from a two weeks' trip to Florida bringing with him three small live alligators.

#### WEEKAPPAUG

Ocean View W. C. T. U. Meets—Testing of Cows at Hillandale Farm.

The Ocean View W. C. T. U. met at the home of its president, Mrs. E. E. Browning, Wednesday afternoon, with a good number in attendance.

A new garage is being erected at one of the cottages on the Hillandale farm.

Surprised on Birthday.

A number of the young people gave a surprise party to Raymond Fendley, Wednesday evening, it being his fifteenth birthday. Music and games were enjoyed and refreshments were served during the evening.

Mrs. H. A. Macomber and Mrs. G. T. Collins spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rathbone.

**Testing Cows.**

A man from Kingston college is at the cows as to the quality and quantity of milk given by each cow during the week.

Miss Eleanor Browning, who is attending school in Providence, is spending the spring vacation at her home here.

#### HOPKINTON

Accident at Woolen Mill—Live Alligators Brought from Florida.

Services were omitted in the First Day Baptist church Sunday, on account of the storm.

Walter P. Mills was in Providence on business Sunday.

Belt Broke.

Soon after the mill of the Ashaway Woolen company started Tuesday morning, the big belt broke, and most of the help were laid off for the day.

A new belt was put in place and operations were resumed Wednesday.

Charles I. Blake, of High street, Ashaway, is confined to his home with a severe attack of rheumatism.

**To Work for Clay Company.**

The Italians, who have been employed in the Barrington brick works, recently burned, are expected to come to work for the Ashaway Clay company.

Charles P. Eccleston has returned home from a two weeks' trip to Florida bringing with him three small live alligators.

#### RICHMOND

Visitor from Wyoming Taken Seriously Ill.

Mrs. Edwin Smith and Marie Devel were visitors in Providence, Tuesday.

William Moore of Willow Valley has been assisting George G. Palmer in farm work.

Ralph and Philip Moore were at the funeral of the first of the week.

John W. Smith is working for Samuel Reynolds.

Joseph Dunn and R. H. Moore were in Wickford the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bevers of Wyoming came for a visit to the home of Amy S. Weaver. A short time after their arrival Mr. Bevers was reported very ill. At the present he is reported somewhat better.

Most of the roads have greatly improved the last few days, as the frost is out of the ground.

**NORTH STERLING**

Richard Fortune was called to Worcester, Friday, to attend the funeral of a relative.

George C. Spooner caught a string of ten trout on day recently.

Some have begun to put in early peas.

Frank O. Plummer attended the funeral of his father in Worcester last week Thursday.

An unusually large number of wild geese are passing over here this spring.

Mrs. Abby Hillery of Rockland, is visiting former neighbors and friends here.

There has been a few forest fires. The peep frogs are late this spring.

#### WILLINGTON

Mrs. Brown went Thursday to New York for a visit.

Miss Alice V. Pratt spent Sunday in Boston with Miss Edna Bubbe.

There were nineteen at Sunday school, including the pastor and superintendent, Miss Copeland and the Amidon young people and the faithful Parker children from the four corners. There was no church service.

Rev. Mr. Parker's second son, Addison, has been suffering from appendicitis, during the week, but is now better.

Miss Pratt arranged an excellent program for the grange Friday evening.



## An exceptional car—built to meet an exacting demand

The six cylinder motor—in its perfected state—is the engineer's answer to the demand of the automobile enthusiast—the extremist if you will.

The perfected six cylinder motor is capable of a faster pickup and a smoother flow of power than is possible in a four.

But not all sixes are superior to all fours.

We build fours that are superior to many sixes.

And our only purpose in building a six is to satisfy with Overland finality that extremist demand for well nigh miraculous motor performance.

The Overland Six is a big, roomy, luxurious, seven passenger car with a motor of unusual power, smoothness and flexibility.

But the price is only \$1145—much lower than any other car of its size and class.

Such a low price for such a superlative car is possible only because the Overland Six is part of a huge production.

In fact Overland production is easily double that of any other builder of cars of like class.

So in buying the Overland Six you not only secure a car of very unusual performance—

But you get the advantage of the economies possible only in the production of cars on so vast a scale.

While the prices of established sixes are advancing, and those recently announced are on a higher price level, the Overland price remains at \$1145.

It is so clearly dominant value among sixes of its size and class, that the demand is taxing even our large capacity.

Today is an Overland Six opportunity which can hardly last. See us now and book your order.

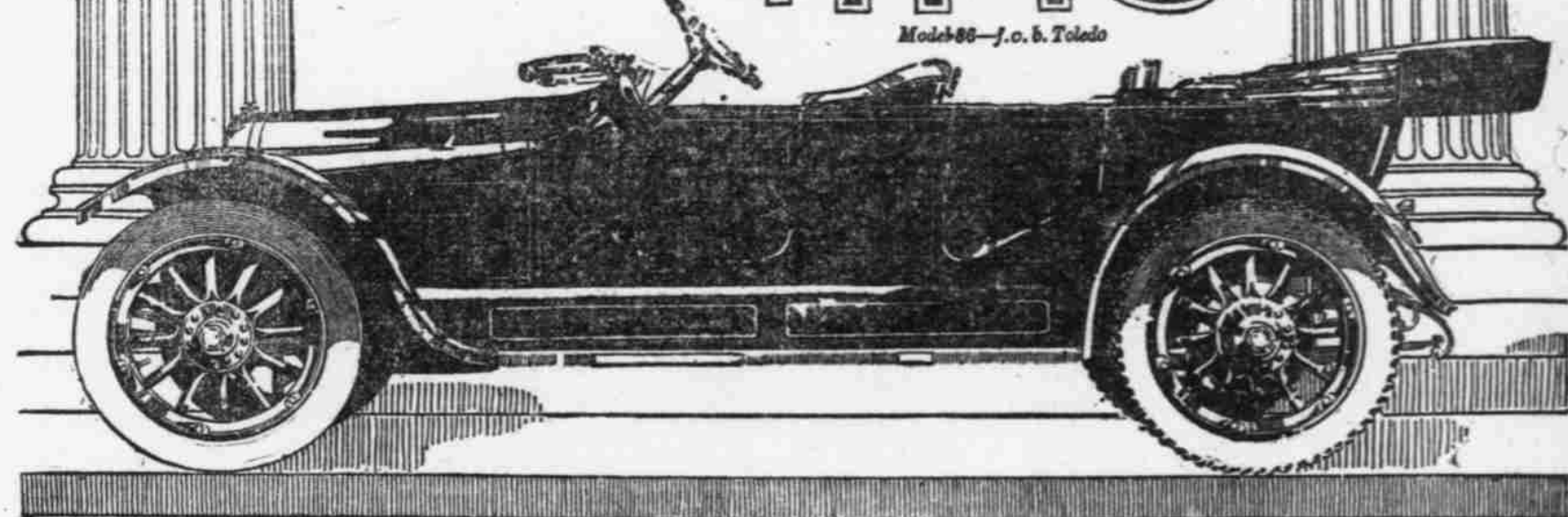
M. B. RING AUTO CO.

21 Chestnut St., Norwich, Conn. Phone 1290

The Willys-Overland Company, Toledo, Ohio

\$1145

Model 88—f.o.b. Toledo



#### USQUEPAUGH

Mrs. James Taylor Returned Home, to Find Husband Dead on the Floor.

Mrs. E. L. Simmons has moved her household goods to the farm of Mrs. Herder, which was formerly owned by Charles Worden.

Miss Mabel Hall, who has been working for J. C. Webster, has returned to her home, last Thursday night.

John Briggs has been working for Oliver Watson, at West Kingston.

**Found Her Husband Dead.**

Funeral services were held at the church here Sunday, for James Taylor, of Wailes Corner, who was found dead in his home, last Thursday night.

His wife was away for the day, caring for a sick sister. When she returned home, about 8 p. m., she thought it strange her husband had no light. She went in the house, and found his body on the floor. Rev. C. H. Palmer officiated at the funeral. The bearers were O. W. Sherman, Arnold Knowles, Caleb Cottrell and Thomas Braman.

B. C. Lock was a caller in Exeter, Wednesday.

Joseph Hoxie is working for Dr. Kenyon.

John Michael is to return from R. I. S. C. soon and engage in the chicken business, with his sister, on the Herge road.

George Niles and family of Wyoming, were callers here Wednesday evening.

#### RIPLEY HILL

Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Sherman of Bradford were guests of Mr. Sherman's parents over Sunday.

Mrs. and Mrs. Wood are to move next week to Manchester, where Mr. Wood has taken the contract of teaming.

Several flocks of wild geese have been flying over the hill this week.

Flint entertained the Green family last Sunday.

Frank Day will take William Wolfe's place carrying the mail after this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrell and little daughter Ruth, of Hanover, were recent guests of Mrs. Morrell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Freeman.

A substitute for imported edible gelatin is made in the Philippines from seaweed.

#### Vaccination in Galicia.

The Austrian military authorities have decided to vaccinate, or re-vaccinate the whole population of some three and a half millions of Galicia.

As a beginning six hundred men and women medical students at Cracow university are taking a three weeks' practical course in learning how to carry out this immense work.

Galicia has throughout the war been the hotbed of diseases, such as cholera, smallpox, spotted typhus and dysentery, and now that the hundreds of thousands of Poles, who fled to Vienna and other places when the Russians came, have once more returned to their homes, the authorities deem it highly necessary to take vigorous measures to protect the health, not only of the inhabitants of Galicia, but of the whole monarchy.

**No Reason For Alarm.**

So far only 197 have enlisted from this city and only 149 in the state. Those who fear that America will have too big an army may take courage.—New York World.

#### SORE BACK, LUMBAGO

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

USED AS A

LINIMENT

"STOPS PAIN" INSTANTLY

Relieves Congestions and Inflammations.

Relieves It Does Not Blisters

Nothing known relieves the pain from Grip, Colds, Sore Throat or Neuralgia so effectively or quickly as

Radway's Ready Relief

25c

50c

ALL DRUGGISTS

Relief in 10 MINUTES

Relief in 10 MINUTES

Relief in 10 MINUTES

Relief in 10 MINUTES

## HOUSE CLEANING

Means New Odd Pieces,

A Chair Here A Table There

You need perhaps a Bureau, a Buffet, a Dining Table, some Dinners, a Bed, a Chiffonier, a Ladies' Desk, a Rug, a Lamp, a Bookcase, a Couch, perhaps a whole Parlor Suit. Then again, if there is a baby you must have a Carriage. We have something new to offer you. Don't fail to see our excellent line.

## Floor Coverings

Our line of Carpets, Rugs, Matting and Linoleums is second to none when price and quality are considered.

## Wall Papers

We carry a good line of the latest designs in Wall Papers. Specially good values in White Back Chamber and Kitchen Papers from 5c a roll up. With these papers you get borders free.

Shea & Burke

37-47 MAIN STREET, NORWICH

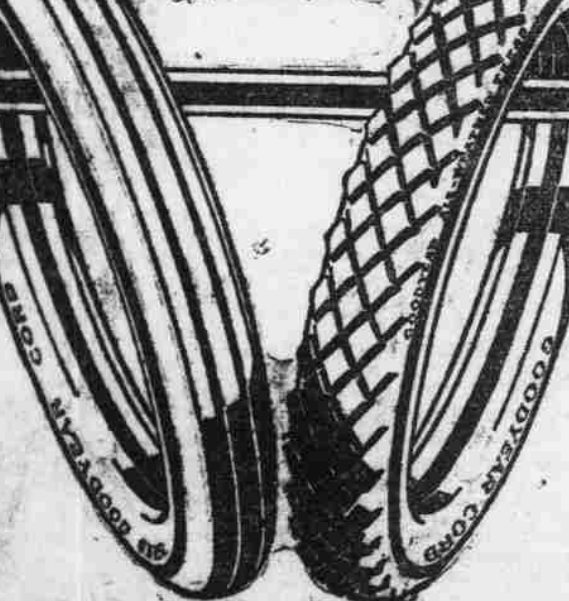
**F**LEXIBLE, buoyant tires of utmost comfort—protected by Goodyear cord construction from most of the danger of stone-bruise and blow-out.

Their pronounced riding ease, their great mileage, and their freedom from trouble are so satisfactory that sales are mounting up and up.

Necessarily higher priced; but by reason of their special advantages, full-value tires, like all Goodyears.

Goodyear No-Hook Cord Tires are fortified against:  
Rim-cutting—By our No-Rim-Cut feature.  
Blow-outs—By our On-air Cures.  
Loose Treads—By our Rubber Rings.  
Puncture and Skidding—By our Double-Thick All-Weather and Ribbed Treads.  
Insecurity—By our Multiple Braided Ply Construction.

**GOODYEAR**  
CORD  
TIRES



#### Washington County, R. I.

##### ROCKVILLE

Woodland Fire Does Damage — Men Serve Chowder Supper.

A forest fire south of Ulysses Gardner's, on the Hope Valley road, Tuesday morning, burned over considerable ground before being subdued.

A. S. Babcock arrived home Tuesday morning from a three weeks' trip to Bermuda.

George L. Barber of Waltham, Mass., was a guest of his sister, Mrs. Emory C. Kenyon, recently.

Wildwood circle met with Mrs. Jared G. Barber Thursday of last week.

A chowder supper was served Saturday night by the men, for the benefit of the parish house fund.

Mrs. George R. Collins of Westerly, was the guest of relatives here Saturday.

Miss Annie Stillman of Providence, was the guest of friends here over Sunday.

Nearly 100 of Iowa's 900 dangerous railroad grade crossings will be made safer for travel this year.